



The Holy Cross

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THE DAUGHTERS OF THE HOLY CROSS, INC.

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Leading God's People—Small and Large Groups

by Bishop Mark Lawrence, Provincial Chaplain, Order of the Daughters of the Holy Cross



If an organization, institution or group is to succeed it needs leadership—effective leadership. Jesus understood this and it was for this reason he chose the Twelve Dis-

ciples and spent the greatest part of his three years of public ministry training these men. He gave no greater attention than to Peter.

Peter seems to have recognized the importance of training leaders. In I Peter 5:1-4 he addresses the issue of leadership in the Church. In this passage he writes to “elders”—those we might describe as pastors or presbyters. But his words can and ought to apply to any level of leadership in the Christian community—including DHC whether Provincial, a local Chapter, or a small prayer or Bible study group.

The first qualification is a personal and growing relationship with Christ. Peter begins by reminding these leaders that he was “*a witness to the sufferings of Christ, as well as a partaker of the glory that is going to be revealed.*” While this was unique to Peter’s apostolic calling, the larger principle here is that he has had a vital and growing spiritual life in Christ.

St. Paul notes a similar qualification in his letter to Timothy: “*Be diligent in these matters; give yourself wholly to them, so that everyone may see your progress*” (I Timothy 4:15). Remember, you don’t have to be perfect for others to see that you are seeking a deeper experience in Christ and growing in your faith.

Secondly, we need an attentive and loving concern for those we lead. Leadership in the Daughters of the Holy Cross, whether in your local chapter or in the Province is a call to nurture God’s people. In I Peter 5:2-3 the apostle speaks of protecting and tending the flock—those for whom we have to give an account. Jesus is our model here—he did not just teach or minister to the crowds—he was interested and had time for individuals like Martha and Mary, and the Samaritan Woman at the Well, outsider and insider alike. Notice how Peter suggests to these early leaders how their posture is one of being both “over and among.” The effective leader in the church is a servant. I like to say, “Be quick to be willing to pick up towels, to clean up messes, to bandage wounds.”

Thirdly, Christian leadership requires a desire to please God above all others. If God has called you to any kind of leadership position, your first duty is not to

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From the President



This is the last issue of *The Holy Cross* before our 4th Provincial Assembly which will be held May 20-23, 2022, at the Franciscan Renewal Center in Scottsdale, Arizona. As most of you know, our theme is JOY, focusing on Romans 15:13, “*May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing*”.

The verse continues, “*so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.*”

Note that Paul does not pray that God will fill the Christians in Rome and us with the joy and peace found in believing (in Jesus Christ) just so that we will feel good. He prays we will be filled with joy and peace in believing *so that* we may abound in *hope*. What a wonderful prayer! Surrounded by news of the ongoing Corona Virus pandemic (endemic?), the crisis at our southern border, inflation, violence in our streets, war between the Ukraine and Russia, and climate change, in addition to the continual evidence that, as a society, our people continue to turn away from God and reject his values, it is all too easy to become hopeless. Some of the problems faced by the first century Christians in Rome to whom Paul was writing may have been different, but they, too, had reasons to be hopeless especially in the face of ongoing persecution for their faith. From history, we know that Paul’s prayer for them was answered. By the power of the Holy Spirit they abounded in hope, hope that carried them through times of trial and tribulation; and filled them with joy and peace, joy and peace which witnessed to the world God’s love manifested in Jesus Christ.

Let us join in Paul’s prayer that the God of hope will fill us with the joy and peace that are found in believing in Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, coming to him with our burdens (Matthew 12:28), and casting all our anxieties on him (1 Peter 5:7). And, filled with that joy and peace, by the power of the Holy Spirit may we abound in hope and thus bear witness to the truth of the Gospel.

See you at the Assembly!

In Christ Alone,
Diane Bringgold Brown
A fellow disciple of Christ

Jane Fortner, An Inspiration



St. Helena chapter at Christ Church in Midland, TX, lost a beloved member in July. **Juavata (Jane) Fortner** passed away July 22 at the age of 98. She was born January 2, 1923, in Dexter, MO, graduated high school in 1940 and attended Southwest Missouri

Teachers College. In 1943 she received her private pilot’s license and in 1944 was assigned to the Women’s Air Force Service Pilot’s Program (WASP) in Sweetwater, TX. Her love of flying led her to become a stewardess with Eastern Airlines after World War II.

In September 1946, she met young Air Force Captain John Fortner and they wed on Dec 22. She said that John took her on the wildest ride for 47 years until his death in 1994. Jane and John adopted two daughters and had 3 grandchildren, 8 great grandchildren, and 2 great-great grandchildren.

Jane was a longtime resident of Midland, where she taught elementary school for many years, inspiring her students to fly and to love our Lord. Jane was proud to be a member of the Commemorative Air Force. A charter member of the Daughters of the Holy Cross St. Helena Chapter, she was never without her Daughter’s cross. She loved taking home communion to homebound parishioners. Every morning when she got up, before she did anything she went to her front door, opened it, and prayed Psalm 23.

Jane never slowed down, completing a woman’s self-defense class in her upper 80s, and parasailing in Hawaii at the age of 93. She was never seen without her makeup, fashionable dress, and high heels, even when she was in the rehab hospital.

Jane loved our Lord and was very diligent in writing to the President or any other public figure that she thought was not supporting God and the country. Her cheery, upbeat attitude was an inspiration to all. Shortly before her death, Jane said: “I love my Savior, Jesus so much and am happy to be going home. I pray that each of you will walk through this beautiful world with Jesus at your side.”

O Gracious and Holy Father . . .

Servant Leadership



January 10 was the Feast of Jesus' Baptism by John the Baptist. Have you ever asked yourself why we remember and

celebrate John's baptism of repentance administered to Jesus, the sinless One? As John himself pointed out to Jesus, it was he, John, who should have been baptized by Jesus (Matthew 3:13-17). So, what was going on? Several things are significant about this event. One of them was that Jesus, the Son and God and King of Kings, was baptized as a way to more fully identify with us sinners whom He came to save from eternal death, and to understand our weaknesses, temptations, fears, and doubts – the human state of existence. Can you imagine a President voluntarily going

through boot camp to experience what a common soldier goes through? It's a poor analogy, to be sure, but presents a vivid picture.

Jesus, however, did not come just to experience and understand what our lives are like; He also came to model for us what our lives as His followers should be like as servants. He demonstrated and illustrated that role over and over throughout the gospels, most graphically when He washed the disciples' feet (John 13: 3-16). When the disciples were jockeying to claim a high place in Jesus' Kingdom (the nature of which they did not grasp one iota), He pointedly told them that as leaders they would first and foremost have to be servants (Matthew 20: 26-27, 23:1-12; Mark 10:43-45, and Luke 22:26-27). Being a servant must be important.

In May, the Daughters of the Holy Cross will be gathering for our

Triennial Assembly (May 20-23, 2022, in Scottsdale, Arizona). At that meeting, the chapter delegates will be electing the Order's new Provincial Council, our governing body. We have been blessed these past three years with an extraordinary group of women. They have led us as servants, laying down their lives for the membership with wisdom and creativity, especially in response to the trials of the Covid-19 epidemic, and even when faced with difficult personal situations. Now it is time to elect a new Council.

O Gracious and Holy Father, please inspire your Daughters as they vote for our officers that they will be led by Your Holy Spirit, and that the women elected will be true servant leaders for the benefit of the Order and for Your glory.

In Christ Alone
Barbara Mattick, Editor

Leaders, from page 1

please yourself or the people you lead—but to please God. Warren Wiersbe said a visitor once asked to him after church, “It must be hard to keep all these people happy!” “I don’t even try to keep them happy,” he replied with a smile. “I try to please the Lord and let him take care of the rest.”

An overstatement, yes, but we need to remember to lean on our relationship with Jesus Christ, lead as he has taught us, seek to walk in step with his Spirit and in fellowship with others, while exercising a loving concern for those we lead. Yet ultimately, it is only One we are called to please and from Whom our reward will come (I Peter 5:4).



Assembly 2022

The Joy of Attending the DHC Assembly

Back in 2018, I was excited to learn that the DHC Assembly was being held in Dallas, Texas. Since I live about 300 miles away, and it was drivable distance, and I have grandchildren in the Dallas area, it was definitely something I was looking forward to attending.

I traveled to Dallas with another Daughter (of the Holy Cross) and the trip itself was a chance to spend time with a good friend. After checking into the hotel, we made our way to the Convention site a few miles away. I was surprised to see many Daughters from all over the country. Some ladies were from Florida, California, and even from Alaska. What a joy it was to meet other ladies from all over the country to worship and



to gather to hear the wonderful speakers, and to make so many new friends.

As we travelled back to the hotels, we met with lots of ladies from all over Texas and neighboring states. It was a great opportunity to share our lives and share Facebook and email addresses so that we could stay in touch.

I am very grateful that I decided to go to the DHC Assembly in 2018, and I am definitely looking forward to attending the next one coming up soon

in May 2022.

Looking forward to meeting new friends in May!

Dorothy Carr

St. Helena Chapter, Midland, TX



Deadline, April 5

Scholarships Available for 2022 Provincial Assembly



To help Daughters attend the 2022 Provincial Assembly, the Provincial Council is pleased to offer scholarships up to \$100. These scholarships will be given on an individual basis to Daughters in financial need or under other unusual circumstances. The funds available will cover a portion of the Assembly registration costs for up to ten Daughters staying at the Franciscan Renewal Center. Daughters who may be commuting daily or who may be staying elsewhere are not eligible for a scholarship.

To be considered for a scholarship, Daughters must:

1. Be current in their dues
2. Submit an application, signed by their Chapter President and a member of Clergy. Daughters-at-Large must have their application signed by a member of Clergy.
3. Upon receipt of the completed application, the Provincial Council President will review it for final approval. **Note: Applications must be received no later than April 5, 2022.**
4. Once approved, the applicant must submit their registration form and the balance of their payment to the Provincial Council Treasurer. **Please keep in mind that registration costs increase on March 16, so the sooner you apply, the less the registration fee will be.**

The scholarship form may be found on the Daughters' website, under the Provincial Assembly information tab.

The ABCs of Assembly



At the time this issue of the *Holy Cross* is going to press, we are 98 days away from the 4th Provincial Assembly! Below are 26 reasons you should consider joining us.

Archbishop Foley Beach will preach over our opening worship service on Friday, May 20.

Bishop Mark Lawrence, our DHC Chaplain, and his wife, Allison, will be with us the entire weekend. Bishop Lawrence will be teaching one of the breakout sessions, “*Joy through Lectio Divina*.”

Creative Prayer Journaling will be taught by Provincial Vice President, Deacon Shelly Sorem. In this breakout session, we will be given tools to enhance our prayer and journaling time.

Don’t delay in registering. Early registration ends March 15. Beginning March 16, the cost increases.

Expect it to be dry! The Franciscan Renewal Center is in Scottsdale, Arizona. You may want to pack a hat, sunscreen, and extra moisturizer.

Food! All meals during the Assembly are provided; served cafeteria-style in the Dining Room.

Go deeper in engaging with the Word through “*Joy through Scripture*.” Provincial Council Promotions Co-chair, Susan Sutton, will teach us how to look at different ways to engage with Scripture.

Hop in the pool or hot tub during your free time...but please bring a one-piece bathing suit!

Imagine yourself communing with God and nature as you take advantage of the opportunity to be outside.

Joy is the overarching theme of our time together – “May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing.” ~Romans 15:13

Keep on praying about registering for the Assembly. But don’t wait too long or you might miss the chance to register for the breakout sessions you want!

Lodging is included in the cost of registration. Single occupancy rooms are limited in number.

Make an Anglican rosary in the breakout session “*Joy through the Anglican Rosary*.” Jenny Estes, who authored a book on using the Anglican rosary as a tool in our prayer

lives, is the speaker for this session.

Night owl? There are social events planned each evening.

Outdoors is more your jam? Free time may be spent walking through the Stations of the Cross or the Labyrinth on the grounds of the Franciscan Renewal Center. Materials will be provided to guide you.

Pray AND get your daily steps in while drawing closer to our Lord, using a prayer walk tool to help you focus on praying as you walk.

Questions? Join us on a Zoom call or contact anyone on the Assembly Committee (Donna Chaffee, Sharon High, Shelly Sorem).

Relax, refresh, recharge, reinvest in yourself. Even in the middle of a pandemic, many of us have been pulled in multiple directions. Use this time away to be reminded of how God may be calling you to live out your Rule of Life.

Scholarships are available (additional information may be found on p. 4).

“**Telling Your Story**” gives us an opportunity to hear how God is working in and through periods in our lives when we encounter trials, as well as great joys.

Up early? Join us for Morning Prayer AND watch the sun come up over the mountains as we come before the Son.

Voting by registered Delegates will take place during the Business Meeting. All women are welcome to come to the meeting.

Want to gain a deeper understanding of the stories behind our favorite hymns as well as newer praise music, and how to use both types of worship music as devotionals? Sign up for “*Joy through Worship*.”

“**Xpect**” to make new friendships with Daughters you’ve just met or renew friendships you’ve made at prior Assemblies.

Yes, spouses may come. They are welcome to attend all meals, the worship services and evening events. The breakout session and business meeting are designed for women only. Spouses must register on the Daughters’ website also.

Zoom calls are being scheduled to answer any of your questions about attending a Provincial Assembly. We will also have some geared specifically towards Delegates.

Membership Report



2022 – a New Year! Hopefully, you all had a wonderful and blessed beginning of your New Year. Soon, March 2 to be exact, Lent will start. During those 40 days of reflection, fasting and repentance, let's keep our eyes and hearts on the ultimate celebration of the Resurrection as

well as these few things: be kind to others, be humble and respectful, be generous in spirit, and most importantly, love one another.

Chapter Highlights:

We're growing! We welcomed our first chapter in **West Virginia. The Daughters of the Ascension Chapter** was instituted on January 23rd. In the Chapter Corner, be sure to read about their service. Another new chapter, **Our Saviour's Daughters**, from the **Church of Our Saviour in Johns Island, SC**, will be instituted on February 27th. Do keep these sisters in your prayers as they establish their chapters.

Another group of six candidates in **Knoxville, TN**,

have been blessed to have members of our **Daughters of the Redeemer Chapter** in Chattanooga, TN, mentor them during their discernment period. They are almost finished and are getting ready to set the date for their chapter institution in either March or April.

In April, we will look forward to welcoming a new chapter in Halfmoon, NY. Deacon Dawn Skramstad, who became a member of our Emmaus chapter last August, transferred to the Church of the Resurrection in the area and began the discernment process for a new chapter in December. The chapter institution date is April 2, Palm Sunday, and Bishop Julian Dobbs will be present for the services.

Several chapters have candidates in the discernment process while others have recently admitted new members. What a blessing to see our chapters growing!

Watch your email and the website for the current news on the Assembly. May 20th will be here soon – and we are so looking forward to seeing you there!

God's Blessings,
Gail



Council Meeting at St. Barnabas, Jacksonville, FL Jan. 14-15, 2021

1st Row: Susan Sutton, Nancy P. Ford, Diane Brown, Jean Williams, and Barbara Mattick

2nd Row: Valerie Sweat, Chapter President (wearing the alb), Pam Valentine, Sharon High, Loretta Baldwin (second from right), and Shelly Sorem

3rd Row: Top Row: Nancy Anderson, Sandy Pond, and Beth Boyd

Treasurer's Report

(as of December 31, 2021)



For the second year in a row, our expenses have been less than budgeted for in several categories due to the continuing impact that the COVID-19 pandemic has played on both our ability to travel and the request for Missions and Growth requests. Items of note follow:

Income

Lifetime Memberships - Our actual income from Lifetime Memberships far exceeded our 2021 expected income. We had a total of 11 Daughters who became Lifetime Members in 2021, including all 10 members of our two Canadian chapters!

Additional Crosses – Our actual income from the purchase of additional crosses exceeded our 2021 Budget figure as some members continue to purchase a second cross at the time of installation or current members purchase replacement crosses.

ICA Donations – Despite the impact of the continued pandemic, our members continue to be faithful in donating to the In Christ Alone Fund.

Expenses

Outreach – our tithe to ACNA was less than budgeted for, reflecting the decrease in dues received. Our practice is to donate 10% of total membership dues (including new member dues). The donation does not include income received as part of the Enrollment Fee.

Missions and Growth – the amount of money The Order spent in Missions and Growth continued to be impacted by the constraints the ongoing pandemic placed on travel. A \$500 grant was given to one ICA recipient and The Order also subsidized two dues' scholarships of \$30 each.

Travel – for the second year, the Council's ability to meet in person was impacted by the pandemic, as well as this Council's decision to hold meetings via Zoom. The pandemic also impacted the amount of promotional travel done.

Income Less Expenses

The Order ended the year with \$23,941.55 of income over expenses, which was to be expected with the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

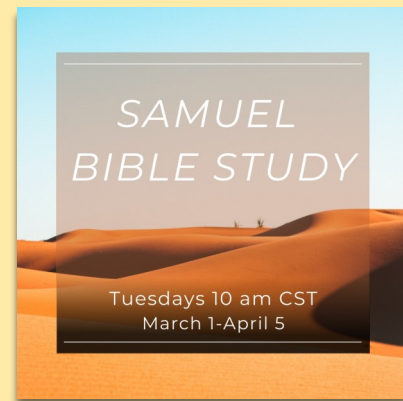
Note:

Chapter Service Project Grants – On June 15, 2021, the Council voted to set aside \$20,000 for chapter service projects. This is not included in the P&L (Profit and Loss Statement on the following page). Similar to the line items for Lifetime Memberships and In Christ Alone Fund, these are monies that are in the bank account, but may only be used for the category they are allocated to. For more detailed financial reports, visit the Daughters website.

Submitted by:

Sharon High, Provincial Council Treasurer

See Profit and Loss statement, next page



Shelly Sorem will be teaching a new Facebook live Bible Study on Samuel. It will be taught live on Tuesdays at 10 am CST from March 1-April 5. The video teachings will be uploaded on the Daughters website as well. If you are interested in joining the study, please visit <https://www.facebook.com/groups/202487144416343>. The videos and other teaching materials can be found on the website here: <https://www.daughtershc.org/samuel-bible-study>.

The Order of the Daughters of the Holy Cross
Profit and Loss Statement
(as of December 31, 2021)

| | 2021 Budget | Actual |
|---|---------------------|---------------------|
| INCOME | | |
| Lifetime Memberships | \$ 500.00 | \$ 6,222.72 |
| Membership Dues | \$ 37,520.00 | \$ 32,346.96 |
| Enrollment Fees | \$ 3,750.00 | \$ 3,038.51 |
| Additional Crosses | \$ 600.00 | \$ 1,018.76 |
| ICA Donations | \$ 3,000.00 | \$ 3,860.18 |
| Miscellaneous Contributions | \$ - | \$ 81.00 |
| Interest Income – Savings | \$ - | \$ 0.69 |
| Reimbursement – Bank Fees | \$ - | \$ 12.00 |
| Total Income | \$ 45,370.00 | \$ 46,580.82 |
| EXPENSES | | |
| Outreach | | |
| ACNA | \$ 3,752.00 | \$ 3,234.70 |
| ARDF | \$ 4,000.00 | \$ 4,000.00 |
| Missions and Growth | \$ 7,000.00 | \$ 560.00 |
| Total Outreach | \$ 14,752.00 | \$ 7,794.70 |
| Travel - Council Meetings | | |
| Airfare, baggage, trip protection | \$ 3,000.00 | \$ 2,155.68 |
| Mileage | \$ 750.00 | \$ - |
| Auto Rentals, Gasoline, Train, Taxi, Shuttles | \$ 400.00 | \$ 243.78 |
| Lodging | \$ 2,500.00 | \$ 678.87 |
| Meals | \$ 300.00 | \$ 77.94 |
| Host Chapter/Host Church Reimbursements | \$ 300.00 | \$ - |
| Total Travel - Council Meetings | \$ 7,250.00 | \$ 3,156.27 |
| Promotional Travel | \$ 6,000.00 | \$ 1,206.87 |
| Total Travel | \$ 13,250.00 | \$ 4,363.14 |
| Office Expenses | | |
| Office Supplies | \$ 700.00 | \$ 226.21 |
| Office Software | \$ 2,000.00 | \$ 1,238.97 |
| Postage & Delivery | \$ 500.00 | \$ 366.31 |
| Post Office Box Rental | \$ 500.00 | \$ 560.00 |
| Internet/Website Hosting | \$ 300.00 | \$ 253.82 |
| Total Office Expenses | \$ 4,000.00 | \$ 2,645.31 |
| Insurance | | |
| Bonding | \$ 480.00 | \$ 409.00 |
| Discrimination | \$ 800.00 | \$ 770.00 |
| Total Insurance | \$ 1,280.00 | \$ 1,179.00 |
| Other Expenses | | |
| Bank Charges | \$ 100.00 | \$ 182.96 |
| Crosses | \$ 5,000.00 | \$ 4,909.00 |
| Florida Incorporation Report | \$ 100.00 | \$ 61.25 |
| Legal & Tax Documents | \$ 120.00 | \$ - |
| Accounting Fees | \$ 500.00 | \$ - |
| Holy Cross Newsletter | \$ 1,750.00 | \$ 1,443.91 |
| Printing | \$ 200.00 | \$ 60.00 |
| Promotion of Order | \$ 1,000.00 | \$ - |
| Miscellaneous | \$ 500.00 | \$ - |
| Total Other Expenses | \$ 9,270.00 | \$ 6,657.12 |
| TOTAL EXPENSES | \$ 42,552.00 | \$ 22,639.27 |
| INCOME LESS EXPENSES | \$ 2,818.00 | \$ 23,941.55 |

NEW: Chapter Service Project Grant

In July 2021, the Provincial Council announced the creation of a Chapter Service Project Grant. Our first grant was awarded in January 2022 to the **Christ Church chapter in Vero Beach, FL**. The grant will be used to help offset costs for the “Journeying Through Grief” project. Journeying Through Grief is a set of four books that are sent to people at crucial times during the first year after the loss of a loved one.

The Chapter Service Project Grant is to be used to develop and support an individual chapter’s service projects. Its intent is to provide financial support to chapters in their efforts to extend God’s Kingdom through works of service. A request for funding may be submitted for any dollar amount between \$20.00 and \$200.00. There is a maximum grant of \$200 per chapter per year through the duration of the fund. Applying for a service project grant does not guarantee that the chapter’s request will be granted.

All applications will be reviewed by the Chapter Service Project Grant committee and submitted to the Executive Council for final approval. If you have any questions regarding the grant, please contact Cindee Herlocker, Finance Chair (email - cmhtxnc@gmail.com; cell 601.966.1228). For more details, see the Daughter’s website.



Celebrating Birthday Milestones



We continue to ask for birthdates from our members. Of the 1011 active members, we have collected 616 -- more than 50%! Thanks to all of you who have submitted your information.

Please join the Provincial Council in wishing the following a very happy birthday (or belated happy birthday) for Daughters who are celebrating turning 80 or older this first quarter of 2022.

There are a couple of reasons why your birthday might not be included above - either we’ve not received it, or if you did send it in, the year wasn’t included. Please send an email to me (sshightx@gmail.com) with the following information. If you don’t have an email address, feel free to call me, text me, or send me a note by regular mail:

Name

Date of birth (mm/dd/yyyy)

We are asking for the year of birth also so that we may recognize those members who are celebrating significant milestones. However, if you are not comfortable including the year, would you still send us the month and date?

In Christ Alone,

Sharon High, Communications Chair

Email: sshightx@gmail.com

Cell: (281) 638-1914

P.O. Box 5764 | Katy, TX 77491

Happy Birthday!

January

Adelaide Beall (91)
Barbara Byerly (85)
Jacque Crosby (85)
Margaret Pate Foster (89)
Sharon Hartman (82)
Freddie-Lu Saunders (91)

February

Eben Appleton (81)
Lou Burrows (87)
Gale Heritage (81)
Mona Perkins (83)
Mary Pipes (83)
Elizabeth Salazar (82)
Jean Salter (93)
Patricia Schellhase (82)
Lynne Womack (80)

March

Evelyn Ewing (83)
Pat Covington (93)
Ruthann Franklin (94)
Jerri Holder (85)
Mary Jane Mann (92)
Elba Martinez (82)
Lona Maupin (84)
Pat Parsons (87)
Shirley Pool (92)
Kathy Rohm (85)
Martha Tomerlin (83)

Ruth Chapter of Saint James Prepares “Gratitude” Baskets

By Virginia B. Bartels

For several years, the **Daughters of Ruth Chapter of Saint James, Charleston, SC**, have prepared what we call “We-Are-Thankful-for-You” baskets for eight different parishioners annually. Each fall, as we make plans for this November project, our priest helps us to identify our church recipients. They might be elderly members who are no longer able to attend many church functions, who are recuperating from an illness or surgery, or who are dealing with grief from losing a loved one. These parishioners have ranged from a little girl recovering from leukemia to those nearing the age of one hundred. Our purpose is to let them know that our congregation is thinking about them and that their contributions to our faith-family are greatly appreciated. People are often remembered at Christmas but sometimes not at Thanksgiving.

After the eight recipients are identified in October,

volunteers within the chapter indicate what they will contribute to each of the baskets. They often make homemade baked goods, such as a miniature pound cake or bagged cookies. Sometimes the contents are handmade, such as a crocheted pumpkin or an angel fashioned with painted oyster shells. Other contributions might be small, purchased items— a Kleenex packet, hand sanitizer, a notepad. Still others are spiritually based— bookmarks, devotionals, plaques with Biblical quotations. Some items are theme-related to fall and Thanksgiving.

At our November meeting we fill the baskets with the varied gifts. Then we place each basket in a large cellophane bag tied with decorative ribbon and topped with a card indicating that the basket is from Daughters of the Holy Cross.

Finally, the Daughters—some as individuals and others in pairs—make plans to take the baskets to the recipients, whether they are still living in their own homes, or are residents of an assisted living facility, or a nursing home. The Daughter visits a while, explaining that she is there to express a sincere gratitude for the recipient’s contributions and service to Saint James. We place a high value on expressing gratitude and love to others. In turn, those receiving the baskets are emotionally uplifted, and their family members are as well. The visit blesses both the giver and receiver.



New Ascension Chapter Shows Shut-In Parishioners: “You Are Not Forgotten”

by Keryn Stokes, Daughters of the Ascension Chapter

In January of 2022, The Daughters of the Ascension chapter was instituted at our church, Church of the Ascension in West Virginia. Our service project during our discernment process showed us that individually we have a specific role to play and that together, we make a great team.

Initially, we considered doing a prayer walk on the property our church recently purchased. As we spoke to our Priest, he cautioned us that physically breaking ground was a year or more out and reaching those nearby may be more suitable in the future. We heeded his advice and his next recommendation was what we felt was the right service project for us: creating gift baskets for members of our church body who could not physically be with us due to COVID and other illnesses.

As we honed in on *who* would be receiving a basket, we excitedly decided what would go inside each one. Tea, tea towels, candies, small devotionals, cookies, and other miscellaneous items soon adorned the prep table in front of us. It was Christmastime, so we decorated our first baskets with holiday-themed gifts. Another went to a home with young children, so that basket was filled with games and small trinkets. Each basket was carefully hand-picked, prayed over,

and assembled beautifully by one or more of our Daughters. We all participated in some level of the assembly and delivery.

As Christ assembles us as Daughters, this is a time of excitement and a sense of awe as we start to see what He’s forming in and through us. But isn’t it when He sends us out to do the work He has given us to do, that the love of Christ really shines? It was in the personal delivery of these baskets that our service project shone the brightest. The recipients, our beloved family who were shut away from the body, were so thankful to simply be seen; to be heard, to be hugged, to be thought of, and to be served in such a way that said, “we remember you.” A thank-you card from one of the recipients literally read, “I thought I had been forgotten.”

It is the heart of Jesus to seek those who are poor in spirit and make them rich. He will use servants of His kingdom to fulfill this mission and The Daughters of the Holy Cross makes this possible. This service project was not only a witness to those we were able to reach, but it was also a building up of spirit, connection, and joy for our chapter. We plan to continue this mission a long time to come. Thanks be to God!



In Loving Memory of Daughters

We remember the following dear members of The Order of the Daughters of the Holy Cross who have recently died. Our thoughts and prayers go out to their families and to Daughters who knew them.

Martha “Marty” Whittier, Trinity Chapter, February 8, 2022

Note: Dates shown are the dates when the notice of death was received and recorded in the DHC Membership database. They may not necessarily correspond to the actual date.

Chapter Corner



Daughters of the Ascension Chapter Created In January 2022

Barbara *Mattick*, a member of the Provincial Council who lives in Tallahassee, Florida, mentored eight women of the **Church of the Ascension in Kearneysville, West Virginia**, through the discernment process via ZOOM. She and her husband drove to Kearneysville for the admission service that was held on January 23, 2022. The service included the admission of the new Daughters, the institution of their chapter (Daughters of the Ascension), and the installation of their founding officers.

New Daughters of the Ascension Chapter, Kearneysville, WV

L-R: Keryn Stokes' little boy; Margie Cleaver; Keryn Stokes (Vice P); Jacqueline Guy (Pres.); Liz Seitz; Barbara Mattick(Provincial Council Rep. and Mentor); Jen-nyfer Klejnowski (Sec.); Amber Rivas; Dianna Burcaw; Bonnie Bailey (Treas.); Fr. Daryl Fitzwater (Chaplain and Rector)



Chariot of Angels Chapter at Christ Church, Moline, IL, Undertakes Chapter Project

Fleece throws were collected and delivered to a local nursing home.

Chapter Corner



Daughters at St. Timothy's Chapter, Coppell, TXs added new members, November 14, 2021.

In Christ Alone Fund Report



We are blessed to have ample funds earmarked for the In Christ Alone Fund and look forward to approving grants for Daughters or women they sponsor to go on mission trips. You can find the guidelines and application on the Daughters website under the tab In Christ Alone. We are hopeful that this year will bring more mission trips and thus more grants awarded.

Also remember that we have Mite Boxes so every Daughter can collect her spare change and send to the Provincial Treasurer for the In Christ Alone Fund. If you need a mite box, contact me at npford49@hotmail.com and I will arrange to send it your way.



*See page 14 for information about all the great Daughters merchandise available for you!
You can be a fashion star at the 2022 Assembly!*

ICA, Nancy P. Ford



The Order of the Daughters of the Holy Cross
P. O. Box 180268
Tallahassee, FL 32318

Please submit articles and photos for publication in *The Holy Cross* to the Editor of the Holy Cross, Barbara Mattick at: barbaramattick@comcast.net.

Deadline for the April—June issue is June 15, 2022.

(Please submit articles as Word documents and photos/images as .jpg files, if possible)

Retail! ***Get your DHC Retail!***

If you are looking for sharp-looking DHC mugs, aprons, shirts, bags, etc., check out the retail site on the DHC website.



Go online to see what Glenna has to offer.

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Nancy P. Ford,
Retail Chair

Chapter Corner



wants YOU!
(to share your chapter news!)

Send your chapter news and photos
to Barbara Mattick at:
barbaramattick@comcast.net.